Production of Natural Gas from Tapti fields

*132. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of present production of natural gas from Tapti fields;

(b) whether it is a fact that production of gas from Tapti fields will increase substantially in the near future; and

(c) if so, whether Government will consider to allocate gas for Pipavav gas based power project in Gujarat from the Tapti fields?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY): (a) The present rate of gas production from Tapti field is about 5 MMSCMD.

(b) Production of natural gas from Tapti fields may increase but the exact potential will be known only after assessment of reservoir charcterstics of the field, which is in progress.

(c) Depending on the quantum of additional availability; allocation of gas to Pipavav Power Projects will be considered alongwith other similar requests.

बांका जिले में पेट्रोल पम्प

*133. **श्री जनार्दन यादव:** क्या पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार को पता है कि बांका जिले के बांका नगर में तीन पेट्रोल पम्प एजेंसियां थीं;

(ख) क्या सरकार को यह भी पता है कि उक्त तीन पेट्रोल पम्पों में से दो पेट्रोल पम्प अब बन्द हो चुके हैं;

(ग) क्या सरकार बन्द हुए इन दो पेट्रोल पम्पों के स्थान पर दो नए पेट्रोल पम्प लगाने का विचार रखती है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो कब तक और यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री (श्री के० राममूर्ति): (क) और (ख) जी नहीं। जिला बांका के बांका नगर में केवल एक खुदरा बिक्री केन्द्र डीलरशिप है।

(ग) और (घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Use of CNG in rural areas

134. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of PETOLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantum of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) produced in the country presently;

(b) whether production will increase over the next three years;

(c) whether any effort has been made to find other uses for CNG in rural areas;

(d) whether it is a fact that Government have not initiated any plans or initiative to exploit CNG fully; and

(e) what are the reasons for neglecting a pollution free fuel?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY): (a) Presently, 0.054 MMSCMD of compressed natural gas is produced in the country.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Presently, CNG is used to reduce vehicular pollution in cities where natural gas supply is available through pipelines.

(d) and (e) 26 CNG dispensing stations are working in the country catering to almost 12,000 vehicles.

Ninth Five Year Plan

*135. SHRI SANATAN BISI. Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was any delay earlier, as in the case of Ninth Five Year Plan by two years;

(b) what was the pegged budgetary deficit at that point of time;

(c) whether the observations made by Nobel laureate Amartya Sen have been included in the Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) The Eighth Five Year Plan met a similar situation in that it was scheduled to commence from 1990-91, but was actually implemented from 1992-93.

(b) The budget deficit of the Central Government at the begining of Eighth Five Year Plan, i.e. 1991-92 was 1.1 per cent of GDP.

(c) and (d) In a newspaper item entitled "India must reset its economic priorities: Sen" published in "The Hindu" dated the 11th December, 1998, it has been reported that Prof. Amartya Sen has suggested that India must reset its economic priorities to make them "people oriented rather than commodity related". Suggestions made by individuals and associations are kept in view while formulating appropriate policies by the Government. However, growth with social justice and alleviation of poverty has been and continues to be the basic objective of Indian economic policy and planning. The Ninth Plan document articulates the Government's overall development Strategy.

आई॰एस॰आई॰ की भारत विरोधी गतिविधियां

*136. **श्री ईश दत्त यादव:**
श्री रमा शंकर कौशिक:

क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या पाकिस्तानी खुफिया एजेन्सी आई॰एस॰आई॰ ने भारत विरोधी गतिविधियों के सफलतापूर्वक कार्यान्वयन हेतु नेपाल को अपना केन्द्र बनाया है, जैसा कि दिनांक 8 जनवरी, 1999 के "राष्ट्रीय सहारा" में समाचार प्रकाशित हुआ है;

(ख) क्या सरकार ने नेपाल सरकार से अपने देश में भारत विरोधी गतिविधियों को रोकने के लिए प्रभावी कार्रवाई करने हेतु कोई बातचीत की है और;

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है, और यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण है?

विदेश मंत्री (श्री जसवन्त सिंह): (क) सरकार ने भारत के हित के प्रतिकूल प्रतिविधियों के लिए नेपाली क्षेत्र का आई एस॰ आई द्वारा दुरुपयोग करने के बारे में खबरें देखी हैं।

(ख) और (ग) सरकार इस मसले पर नेपाल की शाही सरकार के साथ बातचीत कर रही है। दोनों देशों के बीच खुली सीमा के दुरुपयोग को रोकने के लिए भारत और नेपाल के बीच सीमा प्रबंधन से सम्बद्ध संयुक्त कार्यदल तथा गृह सचिव स्तर पर नियमित बातचीत जैसे उपयुक्त तंत्र भी स्थापित किए गए हैं। नेपाल की सरकार ने अपनी ओर से यह आश्वासन दिया है कि भारत के हित के प्रतिकूल गतिविधियों के लिए उनके क्षेत्र का दुरुपयोग नहीं किया जाएगा। दोनों देश इस क्षेत्र में सहयोग कर रहे हैं।

Exploration of Natural Gas in Tripura

*137. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to paucity of natural gas availability, large sized gas based industrial projects cannot come up in Tripura;

(b) whether Government intend to intensify exploration work; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY): (a) Tripura has gas production potential of 2.02 Million Standard Cubic Metres per day (MMSCMD) from established projects. Of this, allocation of 1.8 MMSCMD has been made to various consumers. Against this allocation, contracted quantity is 1.2 MMSCMD, and off-take varies from 0.8 to 0.95 MMSCMD only.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. ONGC has programmed to acquire 1010 Ground Line Kilometers (GLK) of '2D' seismic data and to drill 22 exploratory wells during IX Plan in Tripura Sector of Assam-Arakan Fold Belt. Moreover, a blcok AA-ON3, covering an area of 2988